

Language Proficiency Assessment Policy

Implementation Date

1 March 2016

Last Revision Date

08 July 2021

Position(s) Responsible

All Admissions Staff

Authorized by

Sally Yaun, Vice President
Western Maritime Institute

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Policy

Instruction at Western Maritime Institute (WMI) is conducted in English. Students whose first language is not English are required to undergo a Language Proficiency Assessment prior to enrolment in order to ensure they have the language abilities necessary to successfully complete the courses or Certificate of Competency of their choice.

Language proficiency requirements are admission requirements and may not be waived by either the institution or the student. English as a Second Language (ESL) classes are not acceptable to meet this requirement. The following are accepted options to prospective students:

1. Complete English 12 for marine courses
2. Grade 10 English for non-marine courses or pass college English admission test and provide evidence of having successfully completed two years of full-time education in English in an English-speaking country at the Secondary and Post-Secondary level.
 - Two years of full-time education is considered either 12 courses successfully completed in two years or 15 courses successfully completed in three years.
3. Demonstrate English proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening by meeting one of the following requirements, supported by official results:
 - a. Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) minimum test score of 550 (paper based) or 213 (computer version) or 80 on the internet-based test.
 - b. International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a minimum band of 6.0
 - c. Canada Academic English Language Assessment (CAEL) with a minimum band of 60

For Non-marine courses, the following are accepted options:

- a. An equivalent English course taken at another institution listed in the BCCAT transfer guide
- b. Proof of a diploma or degree from a post-secondary institution where English is the language of instruction
- c. Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) Level 6 in each section
- d. WMI English Entry Assessment with a minimum score of 60%.

Evidence of English proficiency is required upon admission by meeting one of the above.